IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 5, insert --FIELD OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 1, line 11, insert --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 3, line 9, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 31, line 11, delete "In the Figures:" and insert therefor -- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES--;

Page 40, line 12, insert --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 3-6 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 7-8, 10, 25, and 28-30 as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising [a sequence of nucleotides] SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 encoding [or complementary to a sequence encoding an] a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 [from an animal] or derivative of said receptor.

2. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising [a sequence of nucleotides] SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 encoding [or complementary to a sequence encoding an animal] a haemopoietin receptor comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 or a derivative thereof, wherein said receptor:

(i) is capable of interaction with IL-13 or its derivatives; and

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(ii) is capable of interaction with a complex between IL-4 and IL-4 receptor α-chain.

7.(Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes [or is complementary to a sequence which encodes] an IL-13 receptor α-chain or a derivative thereof, said nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleic acid molecule which [encodes a functionally similar IL-13 receptor α-chain or a derivative thereof and which] is capable of hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 [or a complementary form thereof] under low stringency conditions.

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8.(Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides which encodes [or is complementary to a sequence which encodes the] an IL-13 receptor α-chain or a derivative thereof having an amino acid sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 [or comprises a nucleotide sequence coding for an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and is capable of hybridizing to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions].

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10.(Amended) [A genetic construct] An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 [or 6] or 7 operably linked to a promoter capable of directing expression of said nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.

25.(Amended) A [genetic] pharmaceutical composition comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ or 7 or 8 and [one or more genetically] a pharmaceutically acceptable [carriers and/or or diluents] carrier.

28.(Amended) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least two of the following characteristics:

(i) comprises an amino acid sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 [or having at least about 50% similarity thereto]:

(ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 [or having at least about 50% similarity thereto];

(iii) interacts with IL-13 or its derivatives [with at least low affinity]; and

(iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis [has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis when expressed in COS cells],

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the [genetic construct] expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said [genetic construct] expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.

29. (Amended) A method of producing a recombinant polypeptide having at least three of the following characteristics:

(i) comprises an amino acid sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 [or having at least about 50% similarity to all or part thereof];

(ii) is encoded by a nucleotide sequence [substantially] as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:3 [or having at least about 50% similarity to all or part thereof];

(iii) interacts with IL-13 or its derivatives [with at least low affinity];

(iv) said polypeptide, when expressed in COS cells, has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis [has a molecular weight of from about 50,000 to about 70,000 daltons as determined by Western blot analysis when expressed in COS cells];

(v) comprises an amino acid sequence derived from IL-4 receptor α-chain; and

(vi) is capable of interaction with IL-13 which is competitively inhibited by IL-4 in cells which express an IL-4 receptor α-chain[.],

said method comprising culturing cells comprising the [genetic construct] expression vector according to claim 10 for a time and under conditions sufficient to express the nucleic acid molecule in said [genetic construct] expression vector to produce a recombinant polypeptide and isolating said recombinant polypeptide.